

Please tell us what you might contribute to the GSD community (300 words maximum)

My three weeks at the summer 2022 Design Discovery (DD) program offered me a window onto the world of the GSD community, where I observed a rich variety of design thinking among students with an impressive diversity of backgrounds, a wide range of resources in terms of fabrication support, and most importantly, productive collaboration among individuals working alongside and learning from each other on a daily basis in Gund Hall's unique tray environment.

I witnessed groups of GSD students (many of them Design Discovery alums) offering lectures, workshops, and technical support to students like me who are relatively new to the field of architecture. I especially appreciated the opportunities for mutual learning from fellow students in a variety of venues, including classes and shared use of facilities. For example, while observing someone I was not originally acquainted with as he finished using the photo station, I learned how to stage lights for photographs of project models. During the three weeks, I enjoyed giving my studio mates multiple model-making demonstrations including tips on materials selection and cutting techniques, utilizing my museum fabrication background.

My interaction with peers and instructors during the summer program prompted me to realize the extent to which the exchange of knowledge and ideas is valued by the GSD community. My experience during the summer program gives me confidence that, through my daily interactions with students and faculty in the studio tray, I could utilize my prior experience in design and fabrication to contribute positively to the community. As someone who has served as both a volunteer teacher and guest critic at my undergraduate alma mater, I would look forward to serving as a Design Discovery instructor, sharing the knowledge and skills I acquire through graduate study with younger students.